WATER EDUCATION PROGRAM

2003-2004

Inspire
Engage
Imagine
Explore
Share
Discover
Water



Free to teachers • Engaging lessons • Field trips Hands-on activities • Workshops for teachers...

About Our Education Program

he Water Education Program is designed to help educators teach students the "value" of water as an important natural resource and to promote water conservation and stewardship of our local watersheds. The program has grown in the last 20 years to include:

- Classroom instructional presentations
- Field study opportunities
- Teacher training and workshops
- Free curriculum materials aligned with the California State Frameworks
- A lending library of videos, interactive models, books and printed materials
- Production of the Hydro Herald Newsletter
- Endorsement, participation and financial sponsorship of events, assemblies and workshops

Our programs and materials are FREE to teachers in our service area and are made possible through the Sonoma County Water Agency and your local water providers. The curriculum materials and instructional visits listed in this packet have been carefully developed to support the existing California State Frameworks and are aligned with the new California Science Standards. They provide engaging lessons and hands-on activities that present the hydrologic cycle, physical properties of water, water supply systems, treatment of wastewater and pollution prevention methods. Water conservation is promoted throughout the curricula.



Experience your watershed firsthand with our field study programs.

We have revised our program so that certain grade levels are offered a field study experience and some grade levels a classroom instructional program. Curriculum materials are available for all grade levels. Each grade level lesson has a subject specific focus that supports the newly revised (2000) California Science Standards, and is designed to be developmentally appropriate.

We hope that you will look to us as a resource for water education, whether it is curricula, supplemental materials or directly working with your students.

To schedule classroom instruction, outdoor field study instruction or order materials, please fill out the request form included in this packet, or visit our website at www.sonomacountywater.org and click on the education button. Our staff is available to answer any of your questions. For additional information or questions please call (707) 521-6211 / 521-6209.

Water Agency Information Specialists

Cover Photo:

Sixth graders perform a "hands-on" test to determine soil type.

> Order form inside

Water Education Request Form

Free Classroom Materials **STUDENT INCENTIVES** (one per student) (You must be teaching the grade level of the materials Water Cycle Bookcover you are requesting) Wildflower Seeds Rulers Pencils STUDENT WORKBOOKS Fish Erasers Grade Level Quantity Static Water Conservation Stickers **♦** Kindergarten Static Window Sticker Water Is Your Best Friend Colorful Conserve Water Stickers Water & Me Folders – Every Drop Counts Fish Tattoos **♦** First Grade Magnets Water Fun For You ♦ Second Grade To place orders for materials or request About the Water Cycle classroom or field study instruction complete this form or order online at: **♦** Third Grade www.sonomacountywater.org Water Fun (click on education) Water Play – English Juegos de Aqua – Spanish **CLASSROOM MATERIALS SEND TO: ♦** Fourth Grade Teacher _____ Conserve Water (1 per student) CA Water Story (1 per classroom) Grade Level _____ **♦** Fifth Grade The Story of Drinking Water School _____ Captain Hydro El Capitán Tlaloc – Spanish Phone # (_____)___ **♦** Sixth Grade Street Address (Do not list a P.O. Box) Further Adventures of Captain Hydro **♦** Grades 7-12 Project Water Science (1 per classroom) City _____ State ____ Zip ____ **CURRICULUM GUIDES** School District _____ All About Water (K-3) Liquid Explorations (K-3) **INSTRUCTION REQUEST** Water Precious Water (2-6) Aquatic Habitats (2-6) Name _____ Environmental Detectives (5-8) Schoolyard Ecology (3-6) School _____ Of Cabbages & Chemistry (4-8) Acid Rain (6-10) Phone # (____)___ River Cutters (6-9) Outdoor Field Study Instruction **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS** Grade 4 (one per classroom) Grade 5 California Water Map - English Grade 6 California Water Map - Spanish Classroom Instruction Grade 3 **Educational Poster Series** (water supply, treatment plant, Mail or fax this form to: water cycle) Sonoma County Water Agency Use Water Wisely Poster Water Education Program

P.O. Box 11628

Fax# (707) 528-2080

Santa Rosa, CA 95406-1628

WaterWaze Computer Game

Rain Gauge

[•] Orders are filled within two weeks of receipt and will be mailed to your school.



Classroom Materials and Instructional Programs

KINDERGARTEN MATERIALS

Water Is Your Best Friend

A delightful coloring book that teaches the three forms of water and how we use water in our daily lives. (13 pages) Includes teacher's guide.





Water and Me

Through puzzles, games and activities, this useful coloring book teaches conservation concepts. Emphasis is on the uses of water, the three forms of water, the importance of clean water and the water cycle. (16 pages)

FIRST GRADE MATERIALS



Water Fun For You

A book filled with coloring pages, crossword puzzles and word games for younger children. Topics include "water words," the different forms of water, salt and fresh water and

how we get our drinking water. (16 pages)

Teacher Workshops can be beld at your school site.

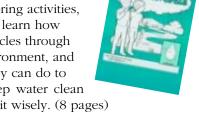
Teachers • Let us help you teach about water. Schedule a workshop at your school site. We will come to you and supply all materials. Workshops can accommodate up to 15 teachers. For a detailed description of the workshops available see the Workshop section of this brochure.

Call the Water Education Department at 521-6211 to schedule a workshop date or for additional information.

SECOND GRADE MATERIALS

About the Water Cycle

Through puzzles, games, and coloring activities, students learn how water cycles through the environment, and what they can do to help keep water clean and use it wisely. (8 pages)



Field study programs for grades 1 & 2 are being offered at the Environmental Discovery Center at Spring Lake Regional Park. For additional information on their program or to schedule a visit please call the Environmental Discovery Center at (707) 539-2865.



THIRD GRADE MATERIALS

Water Fun

This colorfully illustrated comic book has stories, games and puzzles designed to teach about the water cycle and water conservation. (16 pages) Includes teacher's guide.





Water Play – Juegos de Agua

A colorful activity book all about water. It includes messages to be decoded, puzzles, crosswords, and mazes. Available in both English and Spanish. (15 pages)

Classroom Presentation – Grade 3

This program includes two, 60 minute lessons conducted by Water Agency staff in your school classroom. Through hands-on experiments and discussions, students explore how their attitudes and daily habits affect their water supply source. The topics covered include:



- What is water and how does it move about the earth?
- How do living things adapt to obtain and use water?
- How do we manage our water for the community?

This program is available during the months of January, February and March. We are able to visit three classrooms at a school — please coordinate with other teachers at your site before signing up as space is limited (see request form included in this packet). This classroom series supports the new California Science Standards.



FOURTH GRADE MATERIALS

California Water Story

Contains a California Water map, teacher's guide, trivia game, poster and video. Concepts emphasized are California geography, hydrologic cycle, history of water use in California, water use today, personal water conservation, and protecting the quality of water. (one per classroom)

Conserve Water

This full color, 16 page booklet contains games, puzzles and activities designed to teach students about water conservation. (one per student)



FOURTH GRADE

Field Study Program - Grade 4

What are the natural processes in a watershed? Are all parts of a watershed connected? These are questions that we will be investigating while physically exploring a local watershed. This program consists of a one hour pre-site visit to your classroom by Water Agency staff and a follow-up field trip. Students will travel by bus and on foot into the natural portions of a local watershed and trace the origins of the water that ultimately flows from their faucets at home and school. We will start the day hiking and exploring the Spring Creek watershed and then follow the water as it moves downstream merging into larger and larger watersheds. FREE buses are provided for the field trip. We are able to accommodate two classrooms from a school site and the program is available during the months of March and April. Space is limited – please see the request form in this packet or make your request online at www.sonomacountywater.org and click on the education button.



FIFTH GRADE - MATERIALS

The Story of Drinking Water - Grades 5-9

This engaging booklet addresses the importance of water to all living things. Topics include the physical and chemical properties of water, hydrological cycle, water supply, treatment & distribution of water and water conservation. (16 pages) Includes teacher's guide.

Captain Hydro – Grades 5-7 El Capitan Tlaloc

A carefully crafted story featuring Captain Hydro, hero of water conservation, who battles his relentless foe, the Water Bandit. This action-packed comic book is full of activities that compare and contrast natural and man-made water cycles, study water supply issues and problems, depict treatment of drinking water and wastewater, and review the consequences of water pollution. Available in both English and Spanish. (40 pages) Teacher's guide includes follow-up activities and an extensive water bibliography.

Field Study Program – Grade 5

Ever wonder where your drinking water comes from? Bring your class out to the Russian River to experience first hand the source of our drinking water. The program consists of a one hour pre-site visit to your classroom by Water Agency staff and a follow-up field trip to the Russian River. We will focus on the Sonoma County Water Agency's water supply and transmission system, water quality testing and the natural history of salmon and steelhead in the Russian River



Watershed. Students can practice their lab skills by collecting water samples and performing hands-on water quality testing. They will use microscopes to discover the variety of life that lives in and near the river. FREE buses are provided for the field trip. We are able to accommodate two classrooms from a school site. This program is available during the months of April and May. This curriculum supports the new California Science Standards.





SIXTH GRADE MATERIALS

Further Adventures of Captain Hydro – Grades 6

In this colorful student comic book Captain Hydro continues to battle the Water Bandit. Includes a teacher's guide with reproducible student worksheets and lessons about water in the context of World History and Geography (Ancient Civilizations to 500 A.D.). Includes a glossary of water terms. (16 pages)

Field Study Program - Grade 6

Wetlands ecology, recycled water and sanitation are the themes woven throughout this component of our Water Education

Program. A one hour pre-site visit to the classroom by Water Agency staff is followed by a field trip to the Kelly Farm Demonstration Wetland

Students will have an opportunity to explore a unique wetland ecosystem created using recycled water. Emphasis is placed on what makes a wetland distinctive. Students will investigate soils and wetland plants and will use binoculars to observe the diverse wildlife living and foraging in this habitat. FREE buses are provided for the field trip. We are able to accommodate two classrooms from a school site and the program is available during the months of September and October. Space is limited. This program coursework supports the new California Science Standards.



GRADES 7 – 12 MATERIALS

Project Water Science - one per classroom

Project Water Science offers lesson plans for the study of water chemistry and how water relates to the environment. It includes a lesson plan book for teachers with 14 laboratory exercises suitable for junior high and high school science classes in either physical or earth sciences, or integrated science and is correlated to California State Science Standards. The labs explore the chemical nature of water, as well as the relationship of water ecosystems.



Curriculum Guides

These guides are designed to provide lessons and background information for the teacher. Some guides include reproducible pages for student use.

All About Water Grades K-3

This 100-page reproducible curriculum guide



contains 26 water-related activities and science experiments that involve students in observing, communicating and comparing. The activities are interdisciplinary and can be used with science, art, math, social studies, music and language arts. Topics include

water quality, the water cycle, fresh water and salt water, water conservation and water distribution.

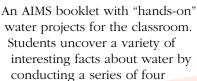
Liquid Explorations (GEMS) Grades K-3

Set-up your classroom with a series of fun, engaging activities in which students explore the properties of liquids. This guide is a fluid



way to introduce younger students to the properties of matter and is an excellent physical science unit for primary grades.

Water Precious Water Grades 2-6



activities that focus on some of the properties of water.

Aquatic Habitats (GEMS) Grades 2-6

This guide features a selection of educational life science activities which illustrate the dynamic interactive nature of living ecosystems. Student groups set-up and observe living models of a pond in the classroom.

Environmental Detectives (GEMS) Grades 5-8

Your students (the environmental detectives) perform chemical and biological tests to determine why fish and wildlife near Synchrony City and its rural surroundings have been dying. Among content areas addressed are: chlorine pollution, acid rain, erosion and sediment pollution, predator-prey relationships, phosphate pollution/algal blooms and oil pollution.

Schoolyard Ecology (GEMS) Grades 3-6

This guide is designed to spark student curiosity about the patterns and interactions in nature, beginning with their immediate environment – the schoolyard.

Of Cabbages and Chemistry (GEMS) Grades 4-8

Students explore acids and bases using the special indicator properties of red cabbage juice. This unit is an excellent lead-in to the GEMS guide Acid Rain.

Acid Rain (GEMS) Grades 6-10

Students learn about acids and the pH scale. The unit encourages students to analyze complex environmental issues for themselves and their community.

River Cutters (GEMS) Grades 6-9

Using diatomaceous earth, students find a way to collapse geological time in a model river system. The concepts of erosion, pollution, toxic waste and human manipulation of rivers are introduced.







Classroom Supplemental Materials

Posters, Maps, Book Covers & Folders

Water Cycle Bookcover - All grades

Colorful and educational too! Printed on environmentally friendly paper. A great visual guide as well as book protector. (printed area 11" x 18")





Pocket Folders - All grades

"Every Drop Counts" is the theme of these vibrant folders. They feature the inspiring art of children and highlight fifteen ways to use water wisely. (printed area 12" x 18")



"Best water map in the state"

California Water Map -All ages

This 28" x 36" full-color map features natural and man-made water resources in California. Water facilities are color coded to indicate federal, state and local projects and "wild and scenic" river systems. The San Francisco Chronicle hails it as the "Best water map in the state." Available in both English and Spanish.

Educational Poster Series - Grades K-6

This series includes three double-sided color posters, 28" x 22", that teach children and adults water facts. The series includes:

- A water system Treatment plant
- Groundwater systems Water careers
- Wise water use The water cycle





Use Water Wisely Poster - Grades K-3

A colorful and humorous 18" x 25" poster with seven illustrations on how to use water wisely. The reverse side offers a discussion guide and extension activities promoting water conservation.

CD ROM & Student Incentives



Waterwaze Educational Computer Game Grades 2-5

This award-winning watershed game features four habitats in Sonoma County waterways: Goat Rock Beach, the Russian River, the Laguna de Santa Rosa, and Santa Rosa Creek. One per classroom.



Rain Gauge All Grades

Involve your students in water science by measuring, recording and graphing rainfall. One per classroom.



Wildflower Seeds - All Grades

Easy to grow annuals and perennials. Many of the varieties will reseed themselves and produce flowers for years to come.



Student incentives available in class sets.



Rulers – All Grades

12" flexible vinyl ruler imprinted with a water conservation message and scaled in inches and centimeters.



Pencils – All Grades

Imprinted pencils remind students of the importance of water.

Magnet – All GradesColorful magnet reminds
us all to use water wisely.



Fish Eraser All Grades



Conserve Water Stickers – All Grades

A sheet of six brightly colored stickers featuring childrens artwork.



Static Window Sticker All Grades

Conserve Water for a Waterful Life!



Water Conservation Stickers All Grades

Assorted static stick-ups with water conservation themes. Can be used on mirrors or windows.



Fish Tattoo All Grades



Lending Library

To reserve materials available through the Lending Library, please telephone the Sonoma County Water Agency Water Education Program at (707) 521-6211 / 521-6209. Materials are loaned for a two week period.

Book Bags

Canvas bags filled with water themed books for use in your classroom. Bags can be assembled by specific or general subject matter and are available for grades K-6.

CURRICULA (available through the lending library)

Cal Alive - Grades 4-8

This is a comprehensive learning package that incorporates 3 CD-ROMS, a Classroom Guide, a Teacher Resource Guide, and an interactive website to teach 4th through 8th



grade students about California's rich biological diversity.

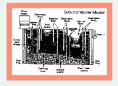
INTERACTIVE MODELS

Enviroscape Model Grades 3-Adult A tabletop watershed

A tabletop watershed model that depicts a community and a



local water supply source. This is an interactive model where students can create pollution events using Kool-aid and cocoa to simulate pollution from pesticides, nutrients, sediments and other contaminants. Students then create a rainstorm over the community with a spray bottle and watch what happens to the local water supply. This model teaches what causes pollution and communicates to people of all ages that we can share in the solution to water pollution by changing our daily habits. Includes a teaching manual.



Groundwater Model – Grades 5-Adult

This interactive sand-tank model is designed to simulate some of the groundwater conditions common throughout California. The model can be used to demonstrate how water moves through different kinds of aguifers under a variety of conditions, as well as the connection between surface and groundwater. There are four types of aguifers displayed by the model: Coastal drainage basins, Western and Eastern Central Valley and the fractured rock zones of the Foothill and Mountain regions. The model comes with a video tape and 18-page lesson plan book.

(Lending Library continued on next page.)

years old about water conservation, pollution prevention, the water cycle and how water gets to the home. Players search for clues as they guide the mini-sub from a rain cloud through the maze of water pipes underground through the treatment plant into a house. Players seek to make wise water use choices.

MTBE Risks and Issues – Grades 8-12

Hydroexplorer Comes To Your Home (IBM & MAC) – Grades K-5 This computer game is designed to teach elementary students 5 to 10

This curriculum, MTBE Risks and Issues: Setting

Taste and Odor Drinking Water Standards, combines experiments and reading material to teach students about MTBE, methyl tertiary butyl ether, in drinking water. The lesson booklet teaches students about MTBE as a drinking water contaminant, how taste tests

are conducted, how drinking water standards are set, and the role of science in public policy.

Classroom set of Where Does Your Water Come From The Drinking Water Source Book – Grades 5-8

This 32 page informative booklet is designed to teach students about the sources of drinking water. Children learn about the water cycle, watersheds, surface water, groundwater, aquatic ecosystems, water quality and its effect on living things.

Water Matters – Grades 3-8

Volume 1 - Wetlands, Water Use, and Wastewater Treatment Volume 2 - Navigation, Groundwater, and Water Quality

Volume 3 - Oceans, Watersheds, and Hazardous Waste (English & Spanish)

Each Water Matters volume comes with 3 posters with text geared for elementary and middle school level students. Posters can be displayed separately or linked into a huge, nine-poster unit. The teacher's guide has activities that directly tie to the poster scenes.

Complete set of Layperson's Guides from the Water Education Foundation Grades 9-adult

A series of 16 booklets which explore pertinent water issues in an objective, easy-to-understand manner. Topics include: Drinking Water, California Water, Groundwater, Flood Management, Water Conservation,

Environmental Restoration, The Delta, The Colorado River, The Central Valley Project, Agricultural Drainage, Nevada Water, Water Recycling, Water Rights Law, Water Pollution, Water Marketing, San Francisco Bay.







To reserve videos available through the Lending Library, please telephone the Sonoma County Water Agency Water Education Program at (707) 521-6211 / 521-6209. Materials are loaned for a two week period.

Life Cycle of the Salmon • All Ages

This video captures the salmon story with remarkable images that reveal the salmon's world, often from their underwater point of view. A clear, informative narration complements the video and makes the program suitable for viewers of all ages. 6 minutes

The Water Cycle • Grades 4-6

This engaging video shows how the water cycle works and how water is cleaned, treated and delivered to your home. Three experiments are included that demonstrate groundwater storage, how the sun affects the water cycle and how using sand and gravel helps to clean the water. 12 minutes.

Science Court: Water Cycle Video • Grades 4-6

Is there water in the air? Science court finds out! Courtroom drama, animation and humor are used to convey the scientific concepts of the water cycle, condensation, evaporation and states of matter. 22 minutes.

The Groundwater Adventures of Walter Wet • Grades 4-6

This cleverly-animated video brings to life the nature and importance of groundwater and includes excellent conservation tips. 12 minutes.

Fountains of Columbia • Grades 4-6

An interdisciplinary study of water and the California Gold Rush. This docudrama is a depiction of life in the Sierra Nevada foothills during the Gold Rush of the mid 1800's, and the importance of water to the settler's survival, all told from the viewpoint of an 11 year old girl. Teacher-student lesson plan book is included. 11 minutes.

Water - Who Needs It? • Grades K-6

A fun-filled learning and activities video where children learn the importance of water to living things, how fresh water is used every day, and how each of us can protect and conserve water. 14 minutes.

Water Follies: A Soak Opera • Grades K-12

Classic, amusing, award-winning cartoon demonstrates the uses and abuses of water in and around the home. The cartoon carries a strong water conservation message without using any narrative. 7 minutes.

Eyewitness Pond & River Video • Grades 6-9

Based on the revolutionary Eyewitness book series, this video takes you on a twisting journey down the great rivers of the world. Viewers are given lots of fun facts spotlighting wildlife, plant life and natural wonders. Historical references and mythical stories are used to emphasize the interdependence between water and life. 35 minutes.

The Russian River – A Historical Perspective Grades 4-adult

This video is an entertaining and educational journey through the river's past, told through the stories of people who live along the river. 22 minutes.

Down the Drain • Grades 4-9

Narrated by well-known child-spokesperson, Stephanie Yu, this video uses an investigative news format to teach children about the water cycle, water pollution, and water treatment. 30 minutes.



Filled with fun and interesting facts about water. Narrated by TV commentator Dr. Frank Field, it points out some amazing statistics about how much water we use and waste. 22 minutes.

Take A Look at Rain • Grades 2-6

Meet Jeffrey, who isn't very excited about spending a rainy day indoors. His day is well spent, however, learning why the water cycle is important to all living things. 10 minutes.

The Story of Streams • Grades 5-9

A video field trip that takes students on an exploration of streams. The emphasis is on stream features that students can actually see and experience for themselves. Students are challenged to think about how streams have helped shape the land, and are introduced to the physical features of streams and to the influence of streams on the history and development of North America. 15 minutes.

H2O - 2010 • Grades 8-12

High school students are transported to the year 2010, and discover there is not enough water in California to sustain the population. Designed to get students thinking about the issues around water and its use. Includes a teacher's guide and study activities supporting the concepts. 25 minutes.

Setting A Course – The California Bay Delta Grades 7-12

The California Bay Delta is the vital source of drinking water for 22 million people in the state and for irrigation of 4 million acres of farmland. This public television program, narrated by Timothy Busfield, explores the Delta's evolution from a natural to a highly engineered water delivery system. Includes viewer's guide. 1 hour.

The Hydrologic Cycle: Water in Motion • Grades 7-12

Developed for junior high and high school students, this video describes how water moves though the hydrologic cycle and shows how natural events affect evaporation, condensation, precipitation, runoff, and storage. 20 minutes.

Groundwater Quality: Managing the Resource Grades 10-12

This video explains the importance of groundwater, defines technical terms, describes sources of groundwater contamination, and outlines steps communities can take to protect underground aquifers from pollutants. 15 minutes.

Conjunctive Use: A Comprehensive Approach to Water Planning • Grades 10-12

This video simplifies the concept of conjunctive use – coordinating surface water and groundwater supplies, which are often managed as separate resources. 11 minutes.

Go With the Flow • Grades 5-12

Teenage actors explain the water cycle and the difference between sewer drains and storm drains and that storm drain water is not treated prior to running into a river or other waterway. 7 minutes.

The Fate of the Jewel • Grades 9-12

A public television production hosted by actor Bruce Dern focuses on the decline in water quality of Lake Tahoe and the multi-stakeholder effort to stop and reverse this decline. Includes viewer's guide with background information, historic timeline and teacher's lesson. 57 minutes.

Water: To the Last Drop • Grades 6-12

This Discovery Channel production takes viewers to Canada, the United States, Mexico and the Middle East to study the natural history of water and to investigate the latest technologies used to make water safe. 51 minutes.

Additional Water Education Resources



PROJECT WET (WATER EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS)

Saturday, November 1, 2003 • 9:00 – 3:00

mmerse yourself in water issues by taking a six-hour Project WET Training! The goal of Project WET is to promote awareness, appreciation and knowledge of California's water resources. The workshop is fun, hands-on and informative. You will learn exciting new activities to use in teaching science, math, language arts, social studies and environmental studies. All activities are correlated to California State Standards (K-12). Participants will receive a copy of the Project WET Curriculum, an Activity Guide with over 90 innovative activities that are hands-on, easy to use and fun. This workshop will be held at the Sonoma County Water Agency Russian River Field Study Site, 9750 Wohler Road, Forestville. To receive a registration form, call the Water Education Program at (707) 521-6211 / 521-6209 or register online at www.sonomacountywater.org



Free Workshops for Teachers



WATER CYCLE WORKSHOP

Thursday, February 19, 2004 • 3:30 – 5:30 "Make & Take"

pend a couple of hours after school and make your own Water Cycle Felt Board. We will also distribute several additional activities for use in your classroom when teaching about the water cycle. All materials and patterns will be provided. This workshop will be held at the Sonoma County Water Agency Russian River Field Study Site, 9750 Wohler Road, Forestville. To receive a registration form, call the Water Education Program at (707) 521-6211 / 521-6209 or register online at www.sonomacountywater.org



WATERSHED AWARENESS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, March 17, 2004 • 3:30 – 5:30

hat is a watershed? How do human activities affect water quality? We will use hands-on activities to discover the functions of a watershed and how everything in a watershed is connected. Learn the difference between point and non-point source pollution. Materials and lesson plans will be provided. This workshop will be held at the Sonoma County Water Agency Russian River Field Study Site, 9750 Wohler Road, Forestville. To receive a registration form, call the Water Education Program at (707) 521-6211 / 521-6209 or register online at www.sonomacountywater.org



Learning Comes Alive



Sonoma County Water Agency



The Sonoma County Water Agency provides clean, low cost drinking water to 600,000 people in Sonoma and Marin counties. Our water supply system serves eight major cities and water

districts in the North Bay who help support the Water Education Program. The principal contractors include the: City of Santa Rosa, City of Petaluma, City of Rohnert Park, City of Sonoma, City of Cotati, North Marin Water District, Valley of the Moon Water District, and Forestville Water District.

The Agency was created in 1949 as a Special District operating under the direction of a Board of Directors (Sonoma County Board of Supervisors). Original authorization of duties included water supply, flood control and power generation. Since 1959, the Agency has delivered the highest quality, naturally filtered water available to its customers, and recently Agency responsibilities have broadened to include sanitation, water reclamation (also called water recycling), fisheries, conservation, and education.